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MARVEL TEAM-UP™

FEATURING:

SPIDER-MAN AND THE HUMAN TORCH

ONE SECOND
MORE--AND THE
WEB-SLINGER
DIES!

AND THERE'S NO
WAY I CAN STOP
HIM IN TIME!

ANY NUMBER
CAN SLAY!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **SPIDEY AND THE TORCH** TM **TOGETHER!** TM

CHAPTER ONE:

ANY NUMBER CAN SLAY!

NEW YORK IN AUGUST.

THE VERY BEST TIME **NOT** TO PLAN A TRIP TO **FUN CITY**, AS ITS EX-MAYOR USED TO CALL IT... BEFORE HE GOT OUT!

THE TEMPERATURE RARELY DROPS BELOW EIGHTY... THE AIR HANGS HAZY AND BURNS IF IT GETS IN YOUR EYES... AND THE CLOSEST THING TO RAIN IS THE SCATTERED DRIPPING OF EIGHT MILLION AIR CONDITIONERS.

NEW YORK IN AUGUST... A TIME WHEN ONE WOULD THINK IT'D BE TOO HOT...

...TO COMMIT MURDER!

MUSTN'T MAKE A SOUND... MUSTN'T ALERT HIM!

BUT HE'S SO LOST IN HIS THOUGHTS I DOUBT IF HE'D EVEN HEAR THE SOUND OF THE GUNSHOT THAT KILLS HIM!

DREAM ON, SPIDER-MAN! DREAM YOURSELF TO DEATH!

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

BILL MANTLO	WRITER
SAL BUSCEMA	ARTISTS
MIKE ESPOSITO	LETTERER
KAREN MANTLO	COLORIST
DON WARFIELD	
MARV WOLFGAN	EDITOR

MUCHAS GRACIAS TO YVIE PEREZ FOR THE SPANISH TRANSLATIONS.

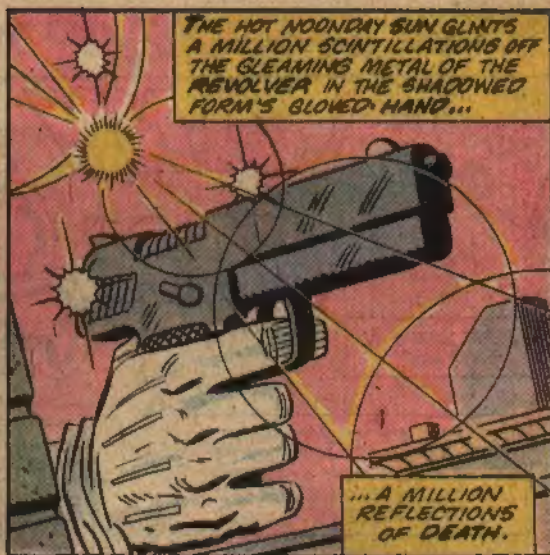
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I'VE WAITED YEARS FOR THIS, WALL-CRAWLER!

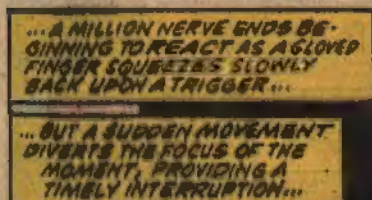
YEARS WHEN ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS PAYING YOU BACK FOR WHAT YOU DID TO ME!

AND PAY YOU WILL.



THE HOT NOONDAY SUN GLINTS A MILLION SCINTILLATIONS OFF THE GLEAMING METAL OF THE REVOLVER IN THE SHADOWED FORM'S GLOVED HAND...

...A MILLION REFLECTIONS OF DEATH.

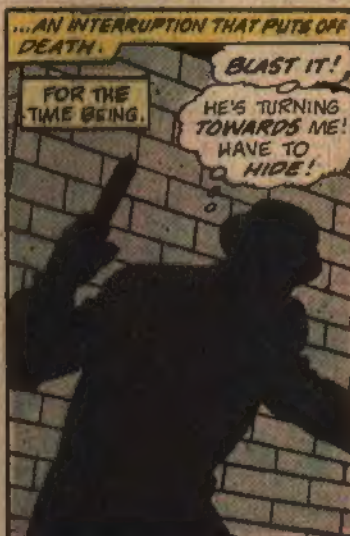


...A MILLION NERVE ENDS BEGINNING TO REACT AS A GLOVED FINGER SQUEEZES SLOWLY BACK UPON A TRIGGER...

...BUT A SUDDEN MOVEMENT DIVERTS THE FOCUS OF THE MOMENT, PROVIDING A TIMELY INTERRUPTION...

PEPITA! BLANCA! ES HORA PARA TU COMER!

IT IS TIME FOR YOUR DINNER, MIS AMIGAS!



...AN INTERRUPTION THAT PUTS OFF DEATH.

FOR THE TIME BEING.

BLAST IT!

HE'S TURNING TOWARDS ME! HAVE TO HIDE!



WHO--?

THE HEAT MUST BE REALLY GETTING TO YOU, WEB-HEAD. DIDN'T HEAR HIM 'TILL HE WAS ALMOST ON TOP OF ME!

LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE CAUGHT BY SURPRISE, THO'.



--THE KID LOOKS LIKE HE JUST SWALLOWED A BOWL OF GOLDFISH!

YOU - YOU'RE SPIDER-MAN??

ARE YOU FOR REAL?

WANT TO PINCH ME AND FIND OUT, FELLA!

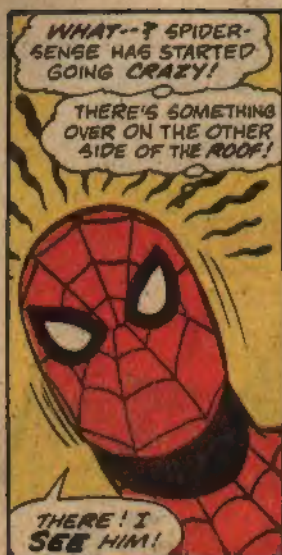


OH NO, SEÑOR SPIDER-MAN! TU ERES EL HOMBRE MAS MARVILOSO, MAS FANTASTICO MAS INCREDIBLE, MMS...

HEY! HOLD ON A SECOND!

I LOST YOU BACK ON MARVELOUS... BUT I THINK I GET YOUR MEANING!





WHAT--? SPIDER-SENSE HAS STARTED GOING CRAZY!

THERE'S SOMETHING OVER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOF!

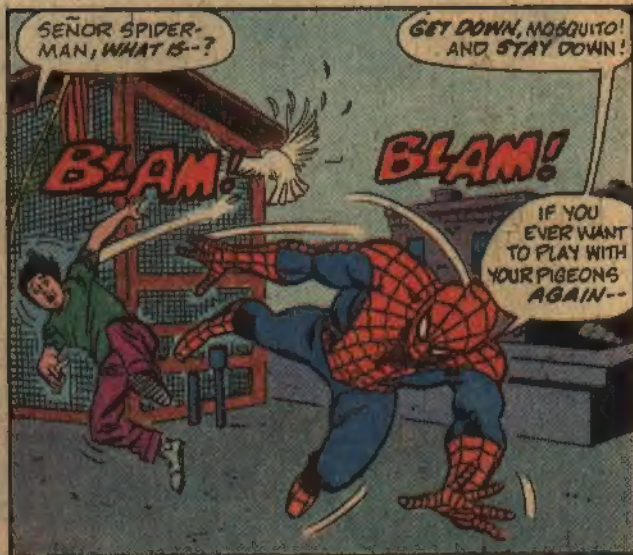
THERE! I SEE HIM!



"HE'S GOING TO..."

BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!

"... SHOOT!"



SEÑOR SPIDER-MAN, WHAT IS--?

GET DOWN, MOSQUITO! AND STAY DOWN!

BLAM!

BLAM!

IF YOU EVER WANT TO PLAY WITH YOUR PIGEONS AGAIN--



--DON'T MOVE!!

JUST CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF OUR WOULD-BE KILLER--



-- BEFORE HE DUCKED BEHIND THE CHIMNEY!

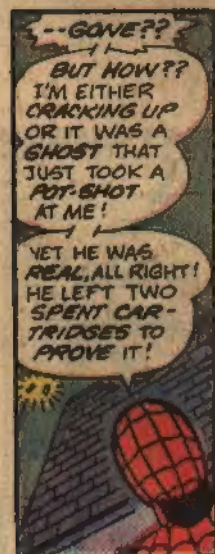
BUT THE EXIT IS ON OUR SIDE-- SO HE COULDN'T GET DOWN THAT WAY--



-- AND THE OTHER SIDE IS SIX FLOORS STRAIGHT DOWN--

-- ENDING IN PURE PAVEMENT!

THAT MEAN'S HE'S GOT TO BE--



--GONE??

BUT HOW?? I'M EITHER CRACKING UP OR IT WAS A GHOST THAT JUST TOOK A POT-SHOT AT ME!

YET HE WAS REAL, ALL RIGHT! HE LEFT TWO SPENT CARTRIDGES TO PROVE IT!



THE OTHER ROOFS ARE TOO FAR AWAY FOR HIM TO HAVE JUMPED, BUT...

FACE IT, SPIDEY! SOMEBODY JUST TRIED TO KILL YOU--

-- THEN DISAPPEARED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!

SEÑOR! HELP ME! PLEASE!



MOSQUITO! CRYING!!

WALL-CRAWLER, YOU'RE AN IDIOT! STANDING AROUND TRYING TO SORT THINGS OUT--

--WITHOUT EVEN CHECKING TO SEE IF THE KID IS HURT!



AUGUST IN NEW YORK...

...AND FOR SOME THERE IS RELEASE FROM THE HEAT IN THE EARLY EVENING SKY...

...IN THE BREEZES THAT SCREAM PAST THE WINDSHIELD OF THE HIGH-FLYING FANTASTI-CAR... AND PAST ITS SOLE OCCUPANT...

...JOHNNY STORM, JUNIOR PARTNER IN THE FANTASTIC FOUR, PERHAPS BETTER KNOWN AS THE HUMAN TORCH.

HOW! THIS HAS GOT TO BE THE HOTTEST NIGHT OF THE SUMMER

BUT THIS SKY-RIDE IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED FOR COOLING A GUY OFF!

THOUGH IF I WASN'T SPENDING THIS FRIDAY NIGHT ALONE JUST CHECKING OUT THE FANTASTI-CAR'S FAULTY GYRO SYSTEM, I'D APPRECIATE THE BREEZE A LOT MORE!

ON THIS NIGHT, HOWEVER, THINGS WILL GET HOTTER, FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING, LONG BEFORE THEY GET BETTER.

TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY...

WHAT THE HEY?! A LASSO??

SOMEBODY'S ROPED THE FANTASTI-CAR!! FLIP-PING IT OVER!

AND I'M FALLING OUT!

...OUT OF THE FRYING PAN...

...AND INTO THE FIRE!

BUT FALLING IS SOMETHING THE HUMAN TORCH NEVER HAS TO WORRY ABOUT!

NOT SO LONG AS I CAN--

-- FLAME ON!

AND ONCE HE HAS HALTED HIS DESCENT...

THOSE GYROS MUST BE IN WORSE SHAPE THAN REED THOUGHT IF SOMEONE WAS ABLE TO UPSET THE FANTASTI-CAR WITH A CRUMMY LASSO!

AT LEAST THE GYROS WERE ABLE TO RIGHT IT AND THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS SHOULD SEND IT BACK TO THE BAXTER BUILDING!

WHICH LEAVES ME FREE TO ZIP UP AND PAY MY RESPECTS TO A CERTAIN FIGURE FROM THE PAST!

SOMEBODY I DIDN'T THINK WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO TRY ANY OF HIS IDIOTIC ROPE-TRICKS ON THE HUMAN TORCH AGAIN!

IT SEEMS I WAS WRONG, THOUGH! DOESN'T IT--



MONTANA?!!

KEE--RECT,
TORCH!

'FEARS YOU AIN'T NEVER
HEARD TELL O' THE STORY
ABOUT BAD PENNIES--



-- 'BOUT HOW THEY
KEEP TURNIN' UP!

* WAY, WAY
BACK IN
SPIDER-MAN
#19, BIBLIOPHILES!
HOW'S THAT FOR
NOSTALGIA?--
MARY.

EVER SINCE
SPIDER-MAN
AND I
POLISHED OFF
YOU AND THE
OTHER
ENFORCERS--*



-- I ALMOST
FORGOT ABOUT
YOU!

I NEVER
THOUGHT YOU'D
DARE TRY AND
ATTACK ME
NOW!

WHY NOT,
TORCH? YOU'RE
A LITTLE
OLDER--Mebbe
A LITTLE
STRONGER--

-- BUT
YOU'RE STILL
A WET-NOSED
PUNK TO OL'
MONTANA!



BOY, HAVE YOU
BEEN OUT OF TOUCH,
COWBOY!

OR DID YOU
FIGURE I'D JUST
SIT STILL WHILE
YOU TOSSED THIS
BILLY LASSO
AROUND ME?

ALL I NEED DO IS
INCREASE MY FLAME A BIT--



-- AND YOU'RE
OUT ONE ROPE,
ROY ROGERS!

NOW I WANT A FEW
ANSWERS AS TO WHY YOU
PULLED THIS LITTLE ACT
OF YOURS!

START TALKING, MONTANA!
BEFORE I REALLY GET MAD!



HE HAS NO REASON
TO FEAR YOU, TORCH!

NO REASON
AT ALL!

WHO IN
BLAZES ARE
YOU?

MEET MUH BOSS,
TORCH! AN' THET MOSS-
PISTOL HE'S POINTIN'
YOAHH WAY--



-- IS LOADED
UP WITH SOME
KIND O' GAS--

PHUUPH!

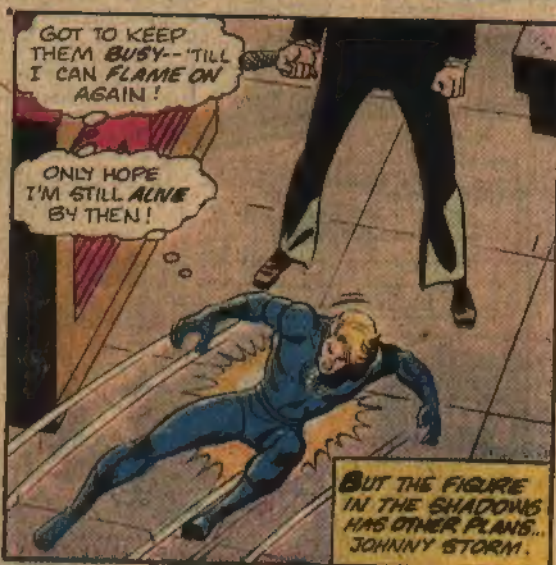


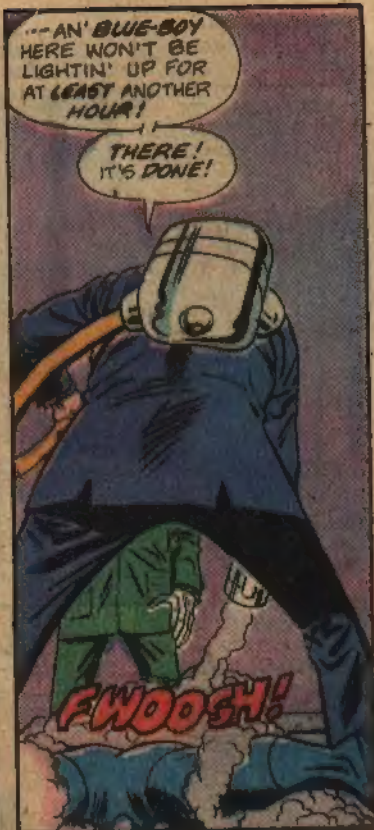
-- 'SPECIALLY DESIGNED
TO SNUFF OUT THET THERE
FLAME O' YOURS!

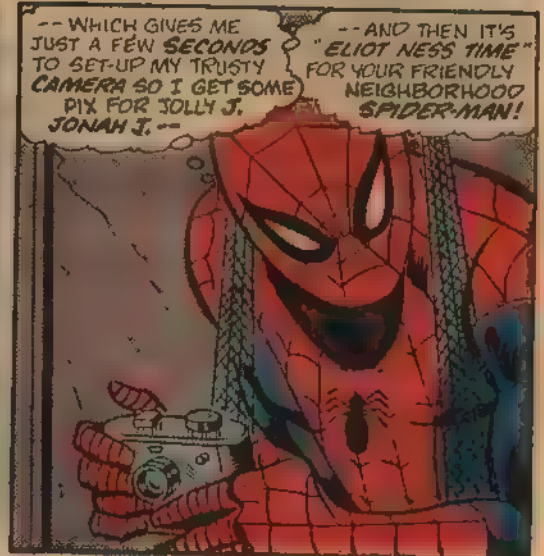
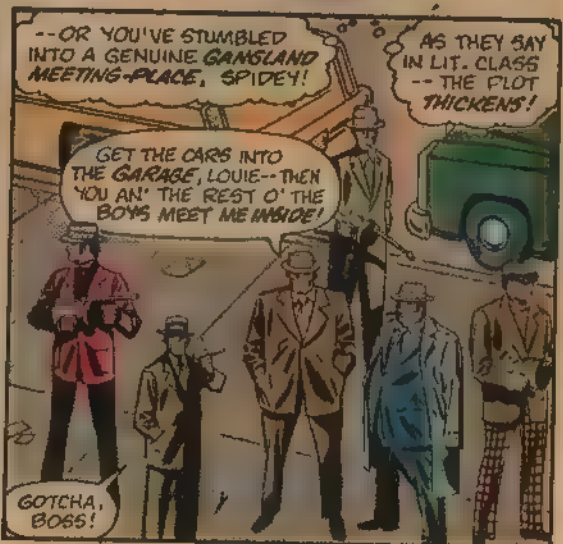
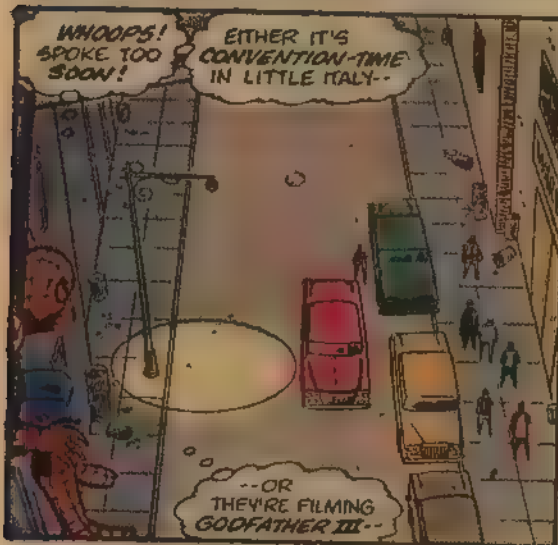
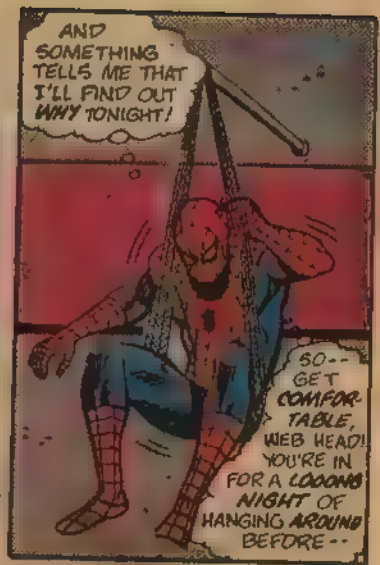
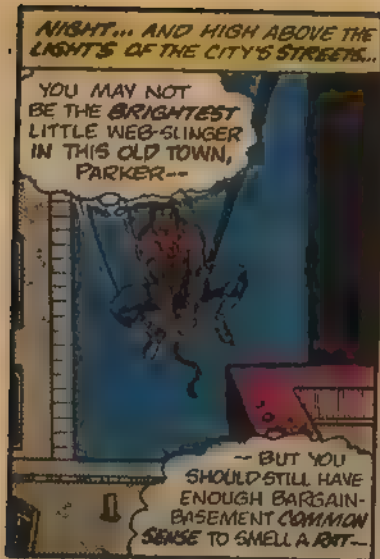
HE'S
RIGHT!

WHOOSH!

FLAME'S
GOING OUT!









UH-OH BETTER LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP, PARKER! THE SHOW'S NOT OVER YET!

BUT WHAT'S A HEARSE GOT TO DO WITH THIS LITTLE GATHERING?

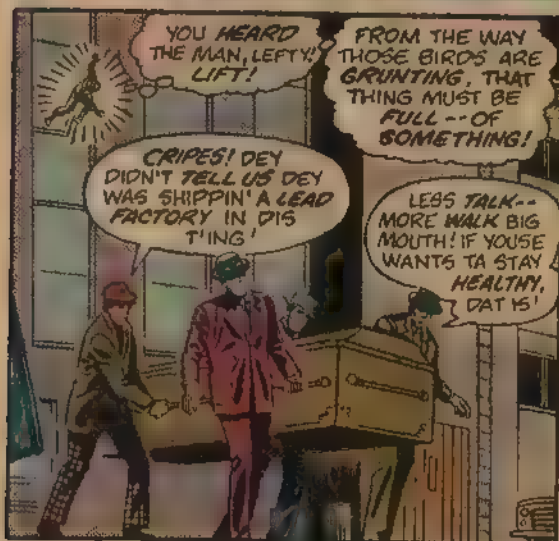
THEY'RE OPENING THE BACK--AND NOW A COUPLE OF PLUG-UGLIES ARE TAKING OUT A COFFIN!

EASY WIT DAT, YOU MUGS!

DA BOSS'LL HAVE YOUR TAILS IF YOU DROP IT!

WAREHOUSE

IF YOUSE IS SO WORK-- LEFTY --WHY DON'CHA SHUT UP AN' GIVE US A HAND!

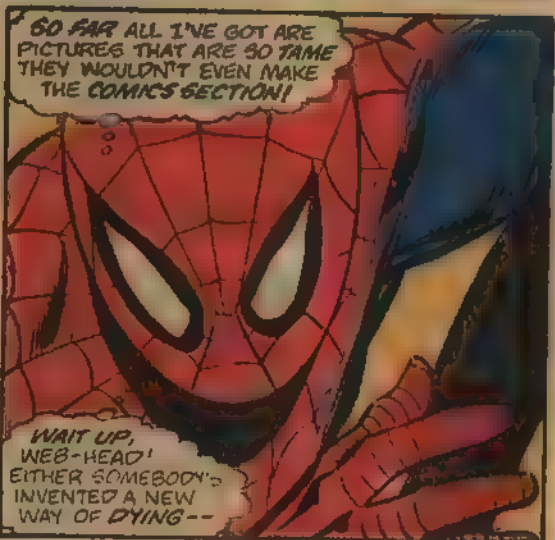


YOU HEARD THE MAN, LEFTY! LIFT!

FROM THE WAY THOSE BIRDS ARE GRUNTING, THAT THING MUST BE FULL--OF SOMETHING!

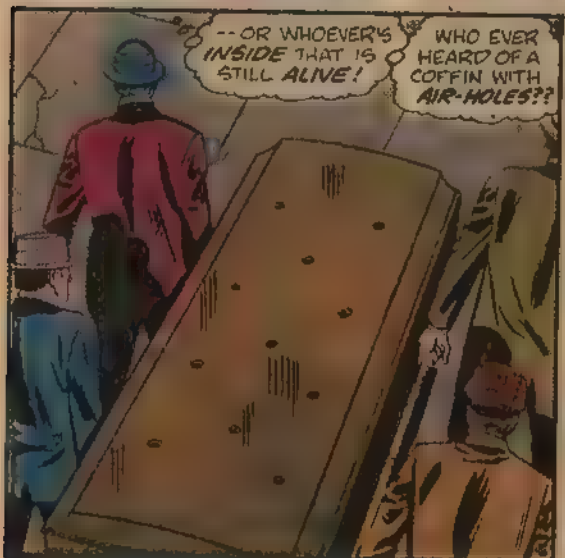
CRIPES! DEY DIDN'T TELL US DEY WAS SHIPPIN' A LEAD FACTORY IN DIS T'ING!

LESS TALK-- MORE WALK BIG MOUTH! IF YOUSE WANTS TA STAY HEALTHY, DAT IS!



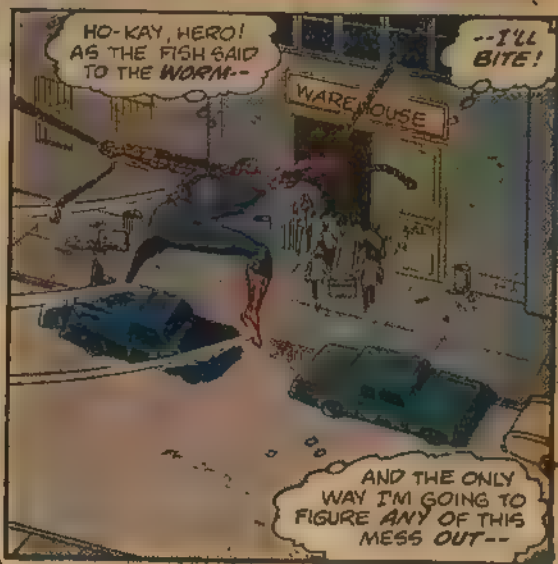
SO FAR ALL I'VE GOT ARE PICTURES THAT ARE SO TAME THEY WOULDN'T EVEN MAKE THE COMICS SECTION!

WAIT UP, WEB-HEAD! EITHER SOMEBODY'S INVENTED A NEW WAY OF DYING--



--OR WHOEVER'S INSIDE THAT IS STILL ALIVE!

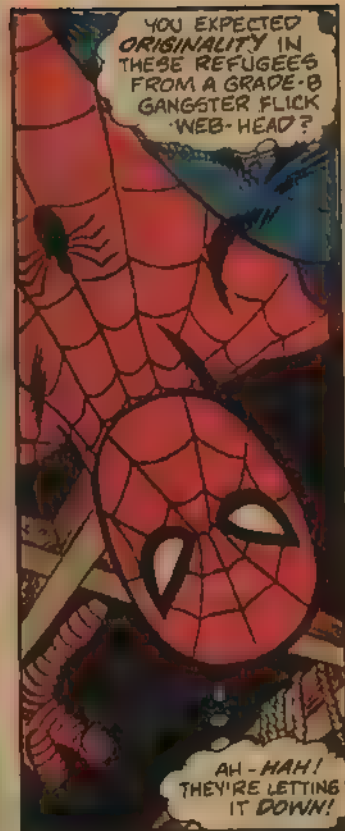
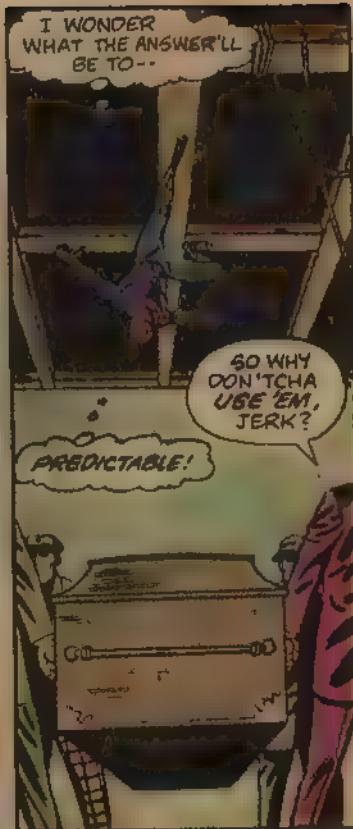
WHO EVER HEARD OF A COFFIN WITH AIR-HOLES??



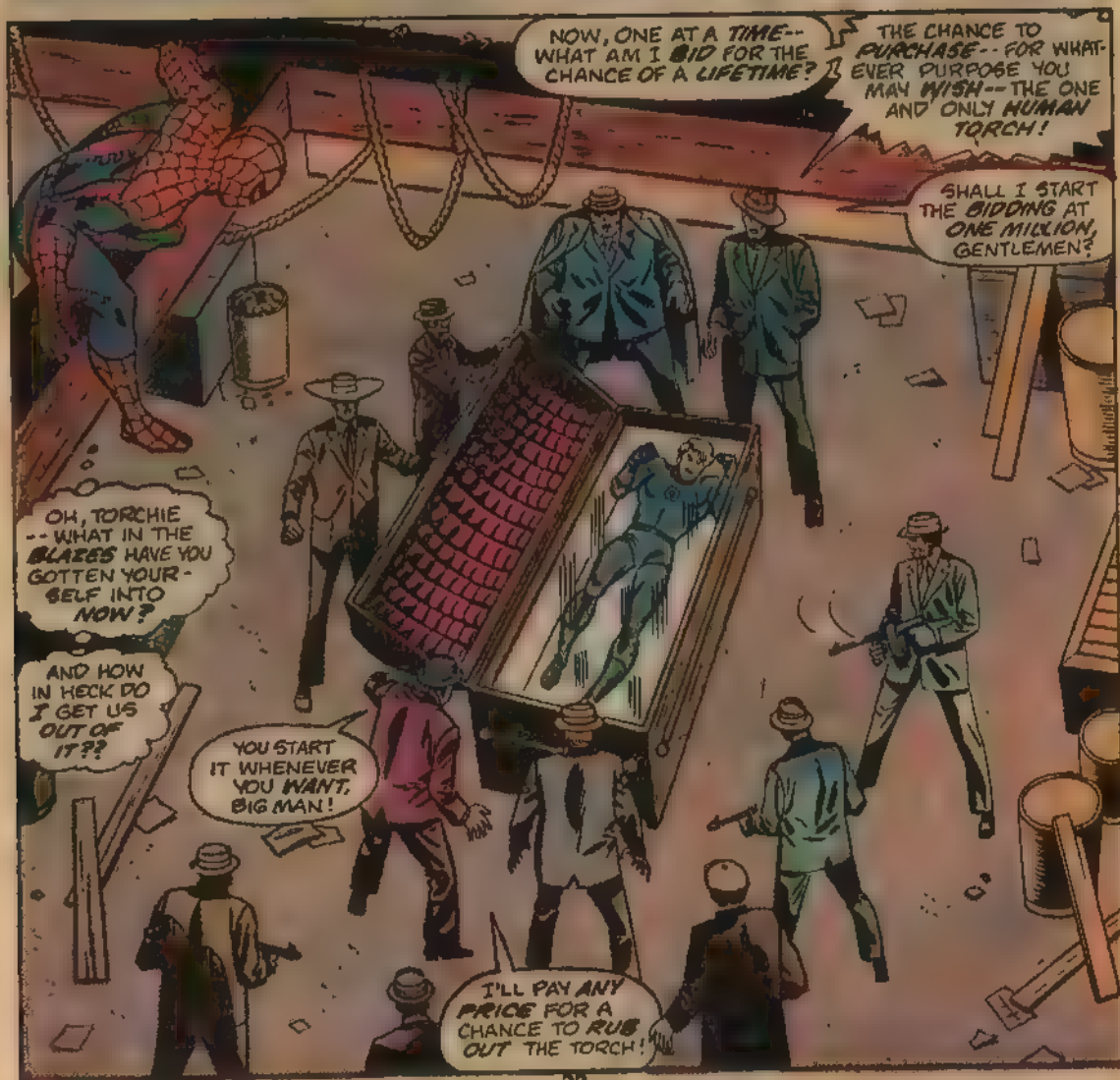
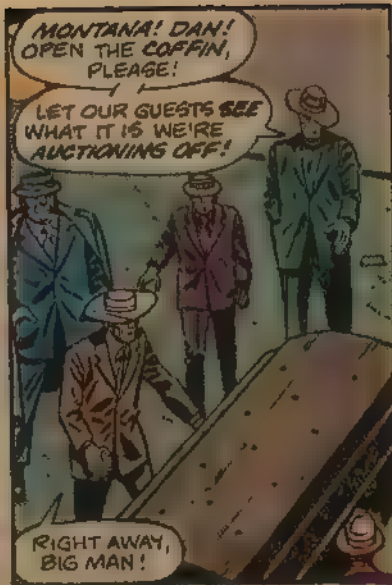
HO-KAY, HERO! AS THE FISH SAID TO THE WORM--

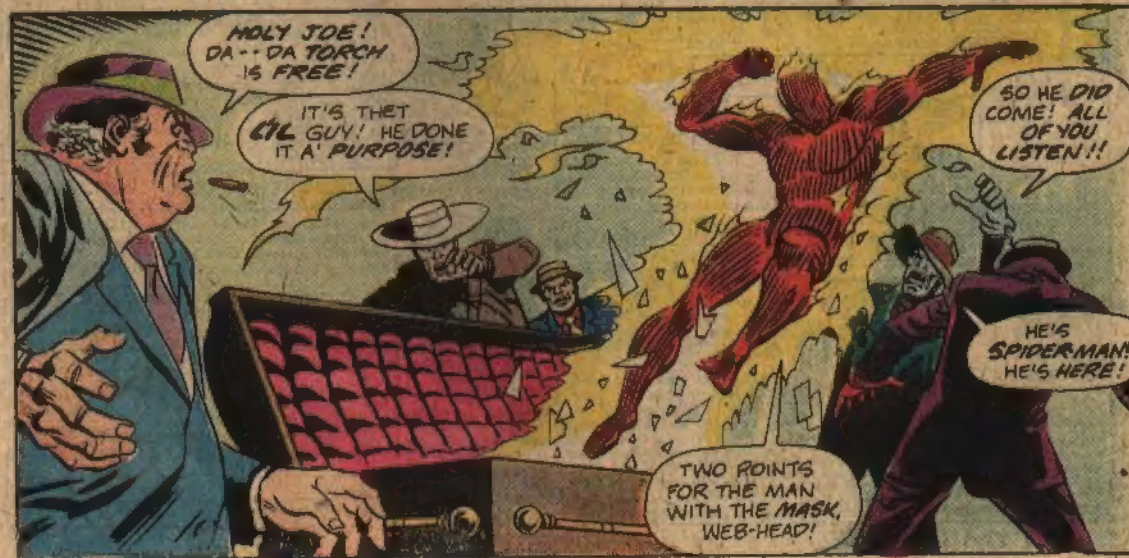
--I'LL BITE!

AND THE ONLY WAY I'M GOING TO FIGURE ANY OF THIS MESS OUT--



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE









GET THEM!
KILL THEM
BOTH!

THIS IS THE
DAY I'VE WAITED
FOR!

THE DAY
SPIDER-MAN
DIES!



I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU ARE,
LOUDMOUTH.

-- AND RIGHT
NOW I DON'T
REALLY CARE!



ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE
REAL BIG MAN WAS A FELLOW
BY THE NAME OF FREDERICK
FOSWELL--

H-H-EY!! H-H-E
W-W-WEBBED MY
M-M-MACHINE GUN!

MINE
TOO!



-- AND FOSWELL REPENTED--
WENT STRAIGHT IN THE END!
HE DIED A HERO, "BIG MAN"!

AND YOU'RE DIRTYING
HIS MEMORY! MISTER,
YOU'RE GOING TO PAY
FOR THAT!

NO!
IT'S NOT
THE WAY
YOU SAY!

KEEP
BACK!!

ME-- I'M GETTIN'
OUT OF HERE! I
DIDN'T BARGAIN
ON TANGLIN' WIT DAT
WEIRDO WALL-CRAWLER!

*ALSO IN SPIDEY #52. -- MARY.



THE BIG MAN
DOESN'T SOUND
SO BIG ANYMORE
... DOES HE,
SPIDEY?

NOPE,
MATCH-HEAD
--THEY NEVER
DO WHEN
THEY'RE
BEATEN!



THE BIG MAN MAY
BE FINISHED MY
WEBBED FRIEND!

BUT THE GAME
ITSELF IS FAR FROM
OVER!

WHO--??

UH-OH! WE'RE IN FOR
IT NOW, WEB-HEAD! UNLESS
I'VE BECOME MYOPIC IN MY
OLD AGE, THAT'S--



THE SANDMAN,
PUNK--AN' DON'T YOU
FORGET IT!

I DROPPED MY
FANCY COSTUME, THO'
--AN' WENT BACK TO
MY OLD OUTFIT!
KINDA OUT OF
NOSTALGIA!

ENOUGH, SANDMAN!
THIS IS NOT A FASHION-
SHOW!

IT IS MORE OF
A PURGE! A
CLEANING OUT, AS
IT WERE, OF THE
VARIOUS ELEMENTS
THAT MAKE
ORGANIZED CRIME
IN THIS CITY--
DIFFICULT!

AND THAT MEANS
ANY ELEMENTS
THAT ARE IN
OPPOSITION
TO-- THE
CRIME-
MASTER!

BUT--THE
CRIME-MASTER'S
DEAD! KILLED BY
THE POLICE
YEARS AGO!

THIS IS ALL
SOME KIND OF
NIGHTMARE!

THEN WE'D
BETTER WAKE
UP FAST,
WEB-HEAD!

--OR WE MIGHT
NOT LIVE TO WAKE
UP AGAIN!

*SPIDEY # 27 -- MARV.

**NEXT: SPIDEY, THE TORCH, THE BIG MAN, THE ENFORCERS,
SANDMAN AND THE CRIME-MASTER AND... AS IF ALL THAT
ISN'T ENOUGH... HANG ONTO YOUR DEVALUED QUARTERS, PILGRIMS, 'CAUSE
HERE COME... THE SONS OF THE TIGER!! DON'T MISS IT!**